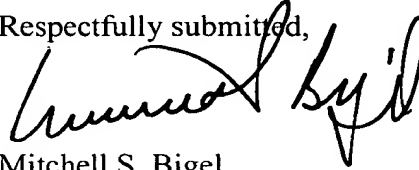


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#### REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application that is reflected in the Official Action of July 12, 2004. Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 1-149 are allowed. In response, in order to expedite allowance of the present application, Claims 150-154 have been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, the present application now is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 28, 2004.



Susan E. Freedman

Date of Signature: July 28, 2004